

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-12 (canceled).

13. (currently amended): A silicon carbide powder produced by a method comprising sintering a mixture containing at least a silicon source and a carbon source, wherein the carbon source is a ~~xylene-based~~ resol xylene resin.

14. (currently amended): The silicon carbide powder according to claim 13, ~~wherein~~ the having a nitrogen content is of 100ppm or less.

15. (currently amended): The silicon carbide powder according to claim 13, ~~wherein~~ the having a nitrogen content is of 50ppm or less.

16. (currently amended): The silicon carbide powder according to claim 13 ~~wherein~~ the having a content of impurity elements is of 0.3 ppm or less.

17. (currently amended): The silicon carbide powder according to claim 13, ~~wherein~~ the having a volume-average particle size (D₅₀) is of 1 to 500 μm .

18. (currently amended): The silicon carbide powder according to claim 13, ~~wherein~~
~~the~~having a particle size distribution (D_{90}/D_{10}) ~~is~~of 4 or less.